

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health  
**OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
 THURSDAY, September 24, 2015  
 MEETING MINUTES  
 DR. LARRY GASCO, CHAIRPERSON, FACILITATING

**APPROVED – November 19, 2015**  
**MSC: Commissioner De La Torre/Commissioner Cooperberg**

Presenter	Discussion	Recommendation/Action/Motion/
Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll Call – Canetana Hurd</li> </ul> <p><b>Absent Excused:</b> Howard Askins  <b>Absent:</b> Fred Leaf</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of June 25 and July 23, 2015 minutes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion to approve June 25 minutes – Chairman Gasco</b>  <b>Motion:</b> Commissioner DeBose  <b>Second:</b> Commissioner Cooperberg</p> <p><b>Motion to approve July 23 minutes – Chairman Gasco</b>  <b>Motion:</b> Commissioner DeBose  <b>Second:</b> Commissioner Cooperberg</p>
Dr. Larry Gasco Chairman's Report	<p><b>SAAC Co-Chair/MHC Meeting Report</b>          Chairman Gasco discussed the consumer representation for the IAB is not adequately represented in terms of numbers. Chairman opened the floor for comments from the SAAC Co-Chairs on the issue.</p> <p><b>SAAC 2 comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Felt that consumers were not adequately represented</li> <li>How do family members fit into the scenario</li> <li>Hope the Commission will take a stand to say this is not acceptable.</li> </ul> <p><b>SAAC 6 comments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four meetings over two years does not represent a process for accountability</li> <li>It appears that the board is presenting a pacifier because the plan is already worked out.</li> <li>Are we really being heard?</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We want to have input to make a choice</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Executive Committee Reports</b></p> <p>August 6, 2015 meeting – Vice Chair DeBose</p> <p>December Offsite –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Location identified</li> <li>Cost will be similar to last year’s costs and shared 50/50 with Service Area 3.</li> <li>Invites: A bus will transport clients from headquarters to the meeting. Lawrence Lue will extend an invitation to Supervisor Hilda Solis.</li> <li>Agenda: brief update (presentation) on SA 3 which includes school based services, jail diversion, homelessness, TAY needs and the new Arcadia MHC building.</li> </ul> <p>Commission discussed reconvening site visits to contract and directly operated agencies and programs.</p> <p>Ad Hoc By-laws Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interim Chair, Larry Gasco</li> <li>Committee members are – Hector Ramirez and Merilla Scott</li> </ul> <p>CCAF (Countywide Client Activity Fund) – The CCAF was recently transferred to the Office of Family and Consumers office. Helena Ditko, Program Head discussed changes to the program structure.</p> <p>SAAC 6 Request –</p> <p>Commissioners DeBose and Graham will discuss a</p>	

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	<p>schedule to regularly attending SAAC 6 meetings</p> <p>Public Comment -</p> <p>Representatives from Women’s Community Reintegration Education and Services Center spoke on unfavorable changes in the program.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> – Arrange site visit to Women’s Reintegration Center</p> <p><b>Retreat Highlights – August 27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new goals were developed or decisions made. Instead, ideas were shared on a process to elect both Commission and Consumer representatives for the IAB.</li> <li>• Establish a DMH Budget Committee Commissioner De La Torre will serve as Chair Committee members: Commissioners Lue, Lyle, Ramirez, and DeBose Purpose:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work to establish a working budget for the Commission. We currently operate without a sufficient budget and want to identify what is needed.</li> <li>2. Look at overall County’s mental health budget and what is the Commission’s role to dealing with the budget.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>September 10, 2015 meeting – Chairman Gasco (Minutes were inadvertently omitted.)</p> <p><b>Integration Advisory Board discussion</b> A motion was made and passed by 4 to 2 that the</p>	

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	<p>Chairman and Vice Chair represent the Commission on the IAB.</p> <p>Commission also discussed selecting alternates for the Commissioner representatives on the IAB. The topic was deferred to the November 2017 full meeting.</p> <p>The Commission adopted a process to elect Consumers for the IAB.</p> <p>Commissioner Lue the following election process that was based on a general election process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post announcement to accept candidates. Use the definition of consumer provided by CEO as guideline.</li> <li>• Develop a one page letter of interest for candidates to complete and submit by an established deadline. Two votes from Commissioners will determine who will be elected as Consumer representative.</li> </ul> <p><b>CALBHB/C</b> Chairman Gasco appointed Commissioner De La Torre as Los Angeles County Regional Director on the CALBHB/C. Four of the 5 director positions are filled. Three alternate vacancies remain open.</p> <p>Data Notebook – Terry Lewis Ms. Lewis will send the data notebook (review of counties Medi-Cal population) to the Commissioners to review. If no responses are received, Ms. Lewis will send the report to the state.</p>	

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	<p>Dr. Southard offered comments that more than ¾ of the population in LA County are represented by Medicaid. Ms. Lewis will include Dr. Southard's comments as a response in the report.</p> <p><b>Bylaws Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met twice</li> <li>• Very productive meeting, made significant progress</li> <li>• Second meeting again at Commissioner Scott's office</li> <li>• Draft of the bylaws will be reviewed at the Executive Committee meeting then full meeting</li> <li>• Looking for Commissioner to Chair bylaws committee</li> <li>• Chairman complimented bylaws committee members and staff who keep track of the changes efficiently</li> </ul> <p><b>Profiles of Hope Update</b> – The board letter is scheduled for board approval on September 29. Money cannot be spent until the board letter is approved. Chairman stated; if the letter is not approved by September 29 consider rescheduling the event.</p> <p><b>Support Staff Request</b> – The request for support staff is still pending from the budget submitted in July.</p>	
Interagency Advisory Board (IAB)	<p><b>Chairman –Entertain a motion to affirm Chair and Vice Chair of our Commission be our elected representatives for the IAB</b></p>	<p><b>Motion – Gilbert</b>  <b>Second – Ramirez</b></p> <p><b>Public comments on motion-</b>  <b>Are other Commissioners interested in becoming a representative on</b></p>

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		<p>Chairman Gasco - Hearing no opposition, the motion passes unanimously</p>
	<p><b>Chairman Gasco - Entertain a motion to direct the Commission to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors requesting an increase in consumer and family member participation for the IAB.</b></p> <p><b>Public comment on motion –</b> Recommend to the board a total of four consumer representatives to the IAB</p>	<p><b>Motion – Commissioner Lue</b> <b>Second – Commissioner Lyle</b></p> <p><b>ACTION</b> - Commissioner De La Torre recommended the Commission also elect consumer alternates for the IAB. Chairman stated alternates will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.</p>
	<p><b>Public Vote to elect Consumer Representative for the IAB</b></p> <p><b>Process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioners will cast 2 votes</li> <li>Candidates with 2 highest votes will be elected</li> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> highest vote will serve as alternates</li> </ul> <p><b>Candidates</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> round votes</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Jeff – 6 votes (ELECTED)</li> <li>Chanel Boutakidis – 0 votes</li> <li>Guyton Colantuono – 5 votes</li> <li>Ruth Hollman – 0 vote</li> <li>Catherine Clay – 2 vote</li> <li>Jean Harris – 8 votes (ELECTED)</li> <li>Reba Stevens – 3 votes</li> </ol> <p><b>Candidates</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> round votes for consumer alternate</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guyton Colantuono – 3 votes</li> <li>Reba Stevens – 2 votes</li> </ol>	<p><b>Motion made to address tie vote in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of votes.</b></p> <p><b>Motion: Take the 1<sup>st</sup> vote which will supersede our previous vote which said 50+1. Persons with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> highest number of votes will serve as alternates.</b></p> <p><b>Motion – Commission DeBose</b> <b>Second – Commissioner Gilberg</b></p> <p><b>Motion passed</b></p> <p><b>ACTION –</b> Commissioner Gilberg would like Dr. Ghaly to update the Commission on the Jail Mental Health Services.</p>

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<p><b>Marvin J. Southard, DSW Director, Mental Health</b></p>	<p><b>DMH Report:</b></p> <p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An unexpected settlement of \$112 million realignment was identified at the closing of last year's budget. DMH will converse with the board on how to use the funds. Most is one-time money.</li> </ul> <p>Update on DMH priorities</p> <p>Homeless –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DMH and City of Los Angeles established efforts to including the Los Angeles City Council to address homelessness. DMH is participating in all three</li> </ul> <p>Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LA County law enforcement has added teams to 10 jurisdictions increasing the current number. When funding is identified 7 additional teams will be added to jurisdictions.</li> </ul> <p>Looking for 400 bed treatment program to be built in state hospital beds to provide alternate services. Intent is to reduce current rates by 10%.</p> <p>It is hoped that the health system is developed for treatments to connect with mental health, foster care, jail services, and a substantial substance abuse system, and view the mental health system as ecology instead of a separate set of programs.</p> <p><b>Dr. Southard will retire on November 6 after 17 years directing DMH</b></p>	

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	<p>Well wishes were expressed by the public and Commissioners to Dr. Southard for his leadership of DMH upon his retirement.</p> <p><b>Legislative Analyst – Susan Rajlal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most bills discussed became two years bills</li> <li>• Several bills have been opposed on Governor's desk</li> <li>• Will provide an update on what is a two year bill and what has been opposed</li> </ul>	
<b>Public Comments</b>	Seven requests to speak were submitted to address the Commission	
<b>Commissioners' Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Ramirez</b> – Announced the national domestic violence conference</li> <li>• <b>Commissioner Lyle</b> – Commended Dr. Southard for his open door policy. Commissioner Lyle will continue to utilize the policy with the new administration.</li> <li>• <b>Commissioner Gasco</b> – Announced the death of Gloria Nabrit, former CEO at Kedren Community Mental Health Center. Dr. Gasco attended the Women's Reintegration program and was impressed with volunteers and temporary staff.</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 1 Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Report</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 2 Report Patricia Russell Member</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputy from Shelia Khuel's office and Capt. of Van Nuys Police Division attended the last SAAC meeting.</li> <li>• Commented on discharging patients from acute facilities without resources is still being addressed</li> </ul>	
<b>SAAC 5 Report Celinda Jungheim</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announced 3 newly appointed Co-Chairs will lead the SAAC 3.</li> </ul>	



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Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adverse Childhood Screening presentation was made at the last meeting</li></ul>	
SAAC 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No report</li></ul>	
SAAC 7 Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No Report</li></ul>	
SAAC 8 Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No Report</li></ul>	
LACCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No report</li></ul>	
Meeting adjourned	<b>Next Meeting – November 19, 2015 @ 11 am – 1:30 pm Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street – Room 739 Los Angeles, CA 90012</b>	

Recorded by Canetana Hurd